

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4228

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 05426

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM; JUNE 14-15 BILATERALS

REF: (A) STATE 125556 (DTG 312351Z MAY 77), (B) USNATO
4728 (DTG 042020Z JUN 77), (C) USNATO 4865 (DTG 071141Z
JUN 77), (D) STATE 122478 (DTG 270009Z MAY 77), (E) USNATO
5280 (DTG 141112Z JUN 77)

1. DEFENSE ADVISOR (LEGERE) VISITED NATO FORCE PLANNING
DIRECTOR BRABAND AND DEFENSE COUNSELLORS OF THE NETHER-
LANDS, UK, TURKISH AND FRG DELEGATIONS JUNE 14-15 TO
DISCUSS OUR EXPECTATIONS FOR EARLY EWG ACTION ON THE
NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM. WE RAISED FIVE SUB-
STANTIVE POINTS:

- (A) OUR WISH FOR THE EWG TO GIVE EARLY GENERAL
GUIDANCE FOR PREPARATION OF TASK FORCE TORS (WE DREW ON
REF A, WHICH WE HAD EARLIER PROVIDED TO BRABAND ALONE).

- (B) OUR DESIRE, AS STATED BY AMBASSADOR BENNETT AT
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JUNE 3 DPC (REF B), FOR REINFORCED EWG MEETINGS, WITH
THE FIRST TO BE CONDUCTED IN MID-JULY (REF C).

- (C) OUR DESIRE FOR EWG APPROVAL OF A SET OF MILE-
STONES FOR THE GENERAL CONDUCT OF THE EXERCISE, WHILE
RECOGNIZING THAT TASK FORCE DIRECTORS WOULD WANT ALSO TO
SET THEIR INDIVIDUAL MILESTONES FOR TASK ACCOMPLISHMENT

(WE DREW ON REF D).

- (D) OUR VIEW THAT NATIONAL EXPERTS SECONDED TO NATO STAFFS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVIDING TECHNICAL AND ANALYTICAL SUPPORT SHOULD REPORT TO THE TASK FORCE DIRECTORS, AND NOT "REPRESENT" THEIR NATIONAL MODS. NOTING ALSO THE DESIRABILITY OF WRITTEN NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS, WE SAID THAT, HOWEVER THESE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE PROVIDED (THROUGH THE EWG, THROUGH AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING THE INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS SUCH AS SHAPE, ASYG (DS), OR DIRECTLY TO THE TASK FORCES), NATIONAL EXPERTS ASSIGNED TO TASK FORCES SHOULD CERTAINLY NOT BE CONDUITS FOR THIS SORT OF INFORMATION AND THAT TASK FORCE DIRECTORS MUST ENJOY DISCRETION ON HOW OR EVEN WHETHER TO USE SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS IN PREPARING THEIR PROGRAMS.

- (E) OUR VIEW THAT THE THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE PROGRAM WILL REQUIRE HANDLING TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS; WORK ON THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE MODERNIZATION HAS BEEN UNDERWAY FOR TWO YEARS; MECHANICS AND PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING THE TNF PROGRAM WILL HAVE TO BE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS (REF E).

2. BRABAND WAS MOST RECEPTIVE TO ALL OUR IDEAS. HE SAID THAT DSYG PANSA HAD MET JUNE 10 WITH DIRECTOR IMS, SHAPE CHIEF OF STAFF, ASYG DEFENSE SUPPORT AND SACLAN TREPEUR, AND HAD INSTRUCTED THEM TO DEVELOP A "MODEL TERMS OF REFERENCE" FOR HIS REVIEW BY JUNE 21. AT THE JUNE 10 MEETING BRABAND PROVIDED COPIES TO THEM OF OUR INPUT TO HIM ON DEVELOPMENT OF TORS (REF A). BRABAND SAID HE WOULD

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REMINDED PANSA OF OUR WISH FOR REINFORCED EWG MEETINGS. BRABAND LIKED OUR SCHEDULE OF MILESTONES, BUT CAUTIONED THAT TASK FORCE DIRECTORS MUST HAVE TIME IN THE BEGINNING TO DEVELOP THEIR PROGRAMS, AND NOT BE BURDENED WITH EXCESSIVE DETAILED REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. WE AGREED THAT THE EWG WOULD HAVE TO BALANCE ITS NEED TO MANAGE THE PROGRAM WITH THE NEED FOR TASK FORCE DIRECTORS TO HAVE TIME TO DEVELOP THEIR PROGRAMS, AND SUGGESTED THAT AT UNREINFORCED EWG MEETINGS LATER, TASK FORCE DIRECTORS MIGHT REPORT, SAY, TWO AT A TIME, OVER THE COURSE OF A TWO-WEEK PERIOD, RATHER THAN REQUIRING ALL TASK FORCE DIRECTORS TO ATTEND ALL EWG MEETINGS. BRABAND LIKED THIS IDEA.

3. IN A SIMILAR VEIN, WE DISCUSSED INFORMALLY WHAT THE INTERIM REPORT IN DECEMBER SHOULD CONTAIN. BRABAND HAS IN MIND A SHORT REPORT THAT WOULD NOTE THE STATUS OF WORK BUT NOT GO INTO A GREAT DEAL OF DETAIL AS WOULD, FOR INSTANCE, A "PREVIEW" OF WHAT MINISTERS WOULD BE SEEING IN THE SPRING. WE RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO DISCUSS THIS

FURTHER, BUT THAT CERTAINLY TASK FORCE DIRECTORS SHOULD HAVE FREEDOM TO RAISE ANY PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED IN DEVELOPING THEIR PROGRAMS FOR RESOLUTION AT WHATEVER LEVEL MIGHT BE REQUIRED, INCLUDING MINISTERIAL LEVEL. BRABAND AGREED.

4. BRABAND AGREED TOTALLY WITH OUR IDEAS ON THE TNF PROGRAM. IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE, HE SAID, FOR THE NPG TO "WORK" FOR THE EWG. IN HIS VIEW, THE NPG SHOULD INDEPENDENTLY PRODUCE ITS PART OF THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM FOR INCLUSION IN THE FINAL REPORT NEXT SPRING.

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5. WYNAENDTS (NETHERLANDS), PETERS (UK), TOPUR (TURKEY) AND WELZ (FRG) GENERALLY SUPPORTED OUR VIEWS ON TORS, MILESTONES, NEED FOR A REINFORCED EWG IN MID-JULY, ROLE OF NATIONAL EXPERTS WORKING IN THE VARIOUS TASK FORCES, AND HANDLING OF THE TNF PROGRAM.

- (A) WYNAENDTS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE HIS AUTHORITIES ATTACH TO THE MATTER OF IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITIES WITHIN INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS, A POINT RAISED AT THE 3 JUNE DPC MEETING (REF B) BOTH BY HIS AMBASSADOR AND SYG LUNS (AS A RESULT OF PRIOR INSTIGATION BY THE DUTCH). WYNAENDTS SAID HE WOULD RAISE THIS POINT AGAIN AT THE 17 JUNE EWG. WE CAUTIONED AGAINST CONSTRAINING TASK FORCE DIRECTORS TO CONSIDER ONLY "PRIORITY" IMPROVEMENTS, THUS PROVIDING AN

AVENUE OF ESCAPE FOR COUNTRIES TO DO ONLY HIGHEST PRIORITY PROGRAMS. WE REMINDED WYNAENDTS OF AMBASSADOR BENNETT'S STATEMENT AT THE 3 JUNE DPC THAT THE US IS NOT LOOKING FOR A NATO INSTITUTIONAL WISH LIST, AND POINTED OUT THAT IDENTIFICATION OF TRADE-OFFS AND TIME PHASING ARE KEYS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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PRODUCING REALISTIC PROGRAMS THAT ARE BALANCED.

- (B) PETERS STRONGLY SUPPORTED OUR VIEWS ON HANDLING THE TNF PROGRAM AND THE NEED FOR REINFORCED EWG MEETINGS. IN ADDITION, HE REMARKED THAT UKMOD HAD ORGANIZED A "NATO DEFENSE BUSINESS COORDINATION COMMITTEE" THAT WOULD DEAL, INTER ALIA, WITH THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM. THIS COMMITTEE IS CHAIRED BY DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE MICHAEL QUINLAN AND MEETS AT AUS LEVEL (CIVILIAN) AND DEPUTY CHIEFS OF STAFF LEVEL (MILITARY).
- (C) TOPUR SAID HE WAS NOT OPPOSED TO A MID-JULY REINFORCED EWG AND ACKNOWLEDGED THE VALUE OF SUCH MEETINGS FOR GETTING NATIONAL MODS CLOSELY ENGAGED IN THE LONG-TERM PROGRAM, BUT WONDERED WHETHER BY THAT DATE THE EWG WOULD HAVE ANYTHING VERY IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS REQUIRING REPRESENTATION FROM CAPITALS. THIS DATE MIGHT BE INCONVENIENT FOR TURKEY, SINCE JULY AND AUGUST ARE THE MONTHS IN WHICH THE ANNUAL CHANGEOVER OCCURS IN THE TURKISH MOD AND THE TGS. (IN THE MOD, THIS CHANGEOVER WILL RESULT IN A "TOP-TO-BOTTOM" CHANGE OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN NATO PLANNING; IN THE TGS THE CHANGE IS ABOUT 50 PERCENT.)
- (D) WELZ SAID THAT BONN ALSO WILL SET UP A STEERING COMMITTEE TO HANDLE THE LONG-RANGE PROGRAM, TO BE HEADED BY MGEN BRANDT OR BGEN ALTENBURG. HE SAID THAT BONN STRONGLY AGREES WITH THE NEED FOR A GENERAL FRAMEWORK FOR TORS, AND THAT OUR "MILESTONES" PAPER WAS REASONABLE. REGARDING THE TNF PROGRAM, WELZ AGREED WITH THE NEED FOR SEPARATE HANDLING. HE COMPLETELY AGREED WITH OUR STATEMENT OF THE NEED FOR REASONABLE AUTONOMY FOR TASK FORCE DIRECTORS FROM NATIONAL POINTS OF VIEW, AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE WILL STICK TO BROAD ISSUES IN ITS REVIEW OF TASK FORCE PROGRAMS NEXT SPRING, THUS AVOIDING DUPLICATIVE DETAILED NATIONAL STATEMENTS OF POSITION ON THE PROGRAMS WHICH MUST, IN ANY EVENT, BE DEALT WITH IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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EWG.

6. NOTE THAT EWG MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR JUNE 17
VICE JUNE 16, BECAUSE OF SCHEDULING CONFLICTS FOR SEVERAL
PRINCIPALS. STREATOR

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